

We understand that Mr. R. E. Bredon, whose appointment to the position of Deputy Inspector General of the Chinese Maritime Customs was telegraphed to us a few days ago by our Shanghai correspondent, will become Chief Secretary to Sir Robert Hart. He left for Shanghai this afternoon in the German mail steamer Bayern.

The Directors of the P. and O. Company have presented Captain De Berry, Commander of the Royal Indian Marine Steamer *Mayo*, and Lieutenant H. Dobbin and A. Goldsmith each with a gold watch, with a suitable inscription, in recognition of the gallantry they displayed in the rescue of the survivors from the wreck of the *Aden* off Socotra in June last. The *Mayo* was off Socotra when the two boats have been given a gratuity of three months' pay.

The news of the appointment of General Blanco to the position of Governor-General of Cuba has been received with satisfaction by his numerous admirers amongst foreign residents acquainted with his administration in the Philippines. It is considered to be a splendid answer to the detractors, some of them not a thousand miles from Hongkong. It is evident the Spanish Government recognises that no other man is capable of extricating them from the terrible mess they have got into in the administration of Cuban affairs. It would not be a surprise if General Martinez-Campos were sent out to the Philippines, but in the meantime the government at Madrid appears to be satisfied with General Rivera's plan of campaign.

Following the 14th Oct. containing the following paragraph dealing with a subject which received much attention in our columns some months ago:—Much has been said and written of late of the lack of a reserve for the Royal Navy, and of the decay and disappearance of the British merchant seaman. A correspondent in the *Far East* has sent me cuttings from local prints. One deals with the *Vale of Doon*, which was manned by foreign officers and men, with the exception of one Englishman. In the case of another vessel, which arrived at Hongkong early in September, the master was asked if his engineers had received a rise of pay. He replied in the affirmative. Asked if he had been given an increase, he answered in the negative, adding that his wages had been reduced from 240 dollars to 175 dollars a month, in consequence of a German having offered his services as master to the Chinese owners at Singapore at that rate. The captain had served the Company for over 10 years, and in consideration of his long service and proved ability the owners had given him the option of retaining his berth at the rate that the German offered his services for, or of resigning—Hobson's choice. The German holds a Singapore certificate—While alien he uses the British flag—for practically the owners of the vessel referred to are such, whatever form of naturalisation may have been performed—sail our ships, and obtain our certificates, the British merchant service will decay.

Another case of business boycott is reported from Japan, the victims being Messrs Samuel and Co., who committed the unpardonable offence of purchasing goods from a dealer and manufacturer who was not a member of the Kobo Straw Braided Guild. Seven resolutions were formally adopted at a meeting of the Guild on the 2nd inst., and an advertisement announcing the boycott was sent to native journals in Kobe, Osaka, Tokyo, Yokohama, and Okayama and to the *Kobe Chronicle*. The native dealer, who also comes under the boycott, is one of the biggest straw braided dealers in Japan. He has upwards of 40 branch establishments throughout Japan, and says the *Kobe Chronicle*, the fact that he is the only successful Japanese exporter of straw braids bears ample testimony alike to his business capacity and commercial integrity. 'Kung', 'Conferees' and boycotting 'Guilde' have a family resemblance, whether American, English or Japanese, and it is not astonishing that the Japanese should follow the example set them by the higher intelligence and the higher civilisation of their Western models. We agree generally with our Kobo contemporary that 'guilde' are of service only when they advance the best interests of the trade they represent, as, of course, he does not mean by that expression the advancement of a particular branch of trade at the expense of another. An illustration of the injury that may be inflicted on trade in general is given by the Conference ruling the shipping trade of England with the *Far East*. The benefit is not for British trade, and, in the same way, every little piece of friction set up by the interference of the guilde with Japanese trade will tend inevitably to restrict the expansion of trade, internal and external. The lot of the foreign merchant in Japan is not an enviable one, and it is high time for the Japanese Government, in the interests of the country, to teach the native guilde a lesson. The strength of the English 'guilde' is great, but recent revelations are likely to move the British Government to action in the interests of the British manufacturer. So far as British merchants in Hongkong are concerned the freight handings is a heavy cost, and we are not astonished that others are now more frequently placed with Continental manufacturers.

Very little interest was taken in the football match played at the Happy Valley yesterday between a Hongkong F. C. XI. and a combined team from Shanghai and the Straits. In the earlier portion of the game the visitors played two men short, and were afterwards assisted by two soldiers. An uninteresting game ended in a win for the Hongkong Club by 2 goals to nil. The goals were by Noble and Crowley.

We are informed that the condition of affairs in the Philippines is in no way ameliorated. The country is reported to be in a disgraceful state, the Spanish soldiers are half-starved and are suffering from disease, robbery and corruption are rife on all sides from the highest to the lowest, and the rebels are getting more daring every day. The big fight recently reported from the Laguna District shows that the rebels have been able to form a very strong party again to the south of Luzon.

The Chinese occupant of the house No. 25 Wyndham Street was summoned to the Magistrate's Court, at the instance of Inspector Duncan. On the 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th Nov., marriage celebrations were carried on almost incessantly day and night, much to the annoyance of the European inhabitants in the vicinity, in consequence of which a largely signed petition was sent to the Registrar-General complaining of the disturbance. Mr. T. Cowen, of the *Telegraph*, and Mr. S. H. Somerton, of the *Daily Press*, championed the cause of the petitioners at the Magistrate's Court by testifying to the nature of the disturbance, which consisted of beating gongs, firing crackers and playing saecchi Chinese music from morn till night and from night till morn. It was stated that the defendant had only permission from the Registrar-General to fire crackers for five minutes on the 10th and 11th. Mr. Woodhouse imposed a fine of \$10.

A CORRESPONDENT sends to the *Globe* two instances of Shakespeare's foresight, one relating to the lady cyclists who wear the national costume and the other to football—both from *Antony and Cleopatra*—
—Leap thou, attire and all,
Through proof of harno's to my heart,
And there
Ride on the pants tripping.
—Yet have we
A brain that nourishes our nerves, and
Get goal for goal of youth.
(Act iv., sc. 8.)

Messrs Bardinol & Co. write from Newchwang under date 30th October:—
Beans are arriving in large quantities and prices have given way slightly; we quote:—
Bean Oil, per picul..... 11s 6.50
Beans, 10 picul..... 4.80
Beans, 3 picul..... 4.80
—Freight for beans from Canton 22 cents, Kobe 22 cents.
—Charter.—We settled the *Anna Bertha* at 30 cents, to Whampoa.
—Arrivals to date are 340 Steamers and 15 Ships against 337 Steamers and 14 Ships in 1896.
—Vessels in port.—*Stanford, Bittern, Killy, Onica, Lancia, Sebastian Bach, Anna Bertha, Quicksilver, Victory, Comet, Comet, Pa ting, Kestrel, Seeborn, Siegfried, Havon, Phipps, Satsuyo Maru, Swanton, Ping Shin, Tama.*
Chinese think our season will close about 22nd November.

Mr John Hill Ross writes as follows in the *Singapore Free Press*:—It was only in last February I happened to be a fellow-passenger on board of the *Melbourne* of M. Doumer, the present Governor-General of Indo-China. He had all the appearance of a man of great resolution and ability, but he is already in the toils, and he will be similarly unfortunate if he escapes the fate of his predecessors. The French appear to have made almost every possible mistake in their organisation and administration of Indo-China. This country has cost them the lives of some thousands of their finest men, and many millions of money, but they cannot but be little wiser than they were finally accomplished their ends, and they are now the absolute masters of a very fine country likely to become of very great importance. The work of conquest is not completed, and great progress has been made in the pacification of the country, but its colonisation, as we understand the word, proceeds very slowly.

The *Rangoon Times* of the 4th November says:—Another summons for breach of the Quarantine Regulations is fixed for hearing on Saturday. This time the case is *Leone*, the alleged offender, the chief officer, Mr. W. Shepherd, having, it is said, communicated with Faknam before the ship was medically examined. It is pleaded on the other side that the *s. s. Leone* had been detained for about five hours at Paknam, and, as there was no sign of the medical officer appearing, the chief officer had been sent ashore to telegraph to the owners asking for immediate examination. Mr. Naylor, who is retained for the defence in this case, appeared before Mr. Archer in H.B.M. Consular Court, to-day, and asked His Honour if he could be allowed security for costs. He instanced the previous case of a similar nature, in which costs had not yet been recovered from the prosecution, and Mr. Archer agreed to his filing a motion to show cause why costs were not recovered, and said that security for costs in the present case would be allowed, or not according to the result of the motion.

A good story is told with reference to the late Charles Greville. He once attended a Springfield social, being then a very young man. Looking at him with assured confidence, the clairvoyant exclaimed: 'There is an aged lady behind your chair.' 'She is very like you,' continued the clairvoyant. 'Who can she be?' murmured Greville. 'She lifts her hands to bless you—her hands are now waving over your head.' 'Pray tell me who this mysterious vision may be!' asked Greville. 'It is your mother.' 'Oh! I am delighted to hear that,' she says she is perfectly happy, and she watches you constantly.' Dear soul, murmured the clairvoyant, 'She tells me that you will join her soon, and be happy with her. Thoroughly Greville remarked calmly in his sweetest tones, 'It is extremely likely for I am going to take tea with her at 4 o'clock. It happened that Greville's mother was still living, though nearly a century old.

GERMANY AND CHINA.

THE MURDER OF GERMAN MISSIONARIES.
GERMAN ULTIMATUM.
CAPTURE OF CHINESE FORTS AT KYAO-CHAU.

(Special Telegram from Our Own Correspondent.)

SHANGHAI, November 17, 4.46 p.m.
The German flag-ship *Kaiser* (Capt. Zeyher), accompanied by the German cruisers *Prinzess Wilhelm* (Capt. Thiele) and *Gorran* (Capt. Brunsen) entered Kyo-chau Bay on Monday morning (16th inst.), under direct directions from the German Admiral to make a demonstration of force, in connection with the massacre of two German Missionaries in Shantung and to obtain reparation for the outrage.

It is believed that the outrage was instigated by the anti-foreign party of officials, headed by the Governor, Li Ping-heng. An ultimatum was sent to the Chinese general-in-command at Kyo-chau, stipulating that the three forts should be evacuated within three hours.

When they saw the guns run out and the German cruisers cleared for action, the Chinese garrison, numbering upwards of 1500 men, bolted, and the forts were quickly surrendered to the German forces.

A party was landed from the ships, and the German flag hoisted over the forts, the warships firing a salute.

The forts are held in the meanwhile by a force of 600 German marines and blue-jackets.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

(SUPPLIED TO THE 'CHINA MAIL'.)

LONDON, 15th Nov., 1897.

FRANCE AND THE SOUDAN.

The *Daily News* Paris Correspondent states that Prince Henry of Orleans is busy preparing an expedition, including a Corps of Hussar Veterans from the West Coast, with the object of assisting M. Lecomte to forestall General Sir H. Kitchener in the occupation of Kikaboum and all territories thence to Victoria Nyanza, on behalf of Abyssinia. The expedition is to leave Marseilles in December, and M. Lecomte to pay King Mendlik 10 per cent of the revenue receipts of the new provinces.

WEATHER REPORT.

The following notes are issued from the Observatory:—

On the 17th at 11.0 a.m. North Coast of China. A depression exists in the China Sea to the Southward of Hongkong. Except fallen in the neighbourhood of Hongkong, the barometer has risen much on the China coast. Gradients are very steep on the China coast. Forecast:—N.E. winds, strong; perhaps a gale; squally, some rain. Storm N.E. gale in the Formosa Channel and in the N. part of the China Sea.

THE ARMED GANG ROBBERY.

ANOTHER THREE ARRESTED.

Last night, three men were arrested in the Man Wo Temple, while sheltering from the rain; by some members of the Chinese detective staff, on a charge of being concerned in the gang robbery in Burd Street on Monday night.

At the Magistrate's Court this afternoon, before Mr H. E. Woodhouse, Police Magistrate, in Ming (24), Wong Chung (34), Wan Shek Ki (29), Wan Shun (30), Chan Ut Ping (23) and Li Kan (22), all of no occupation, were charged that they feloniously, wilfully and maliciously, did kill and murder one Kung Fung, on the 16th November last.

They pleaded not guilty.
Li Fung, the first witness called, stated that he was the first to see the three men in the shop in Burd Street. On the 16th November, about 9.30 p.m., I was in the shop, at the doorway. Two men came in. I said there was such a man of that name. When I said this another two came in, and at the same time all four commenced to seize the folk in the shop. They pointed revolvers at the folk and told them not to utter a sound. I was with them, and I said, 'What is the key of the safe?' 'It is in the accountant's possession.' He said, 'Where is the accountant?' I said he was in his room, go and ask for the key. As soon as I said this he told me to shut up and not to say anything more. This man let me go, and he went into the accountant's room. I took off my shoes and went up to the first floor, which communicates with the first floor of the next house. I went to the first floor of the next house, and from there I went into the street and called for 'Police.' I met a district watchman and told him there were thieves in my shop. I then returned to the shop from where I came out into the street, and from there I called. Then I got up and went to my shop. On the way I heard the report of a firearm. When I got to the shop I found that the people of the shop had all gone away. I went in and took a look, and while there the Police came. I have lost a silver watch and some money. I recognise the first, second, third and fourth defendants. The third and fourth defendants came in first, the second and first defendants were the next two. The second defendant is the person who seized me and told me to shut up. The first defendant was the man who shot at me. Witness then went on to state that he was taken the same evening to a house in Kwei Wo Lane, where he identified the first, second and third defendants. He only saw four men altogether, the first four defendants. The first defendant had a watch hanging in the window, which was taken by the Police. The second was the man who shot at me. The third was the man who seized me and told me to shut up. The fourth was the man who shot at me.

MISS ELIAS ADAIR.

Miss Elias Adair can safely say that no other comedienne and dancer has ever covered the vast amount of territory or had a tenth part of the interesting experiences that have been crowded into her short career, a career which she considers has only begun. She has sung, danced and dined for and with Kings, Queens, Sultans, Rajahs and their harems. She has been to the bottom of the deepest mine in the world, up two thousand feet in a balloon, and down in the briny deep fifteen fathoms, in a diver's suit and picked up pearl shells. When a child on the Sierras she used to go tearing across the prairies, bareback, on wild, vicious little bronchos, so there is not much reason to suppose that she felt any great degree of nervousness when she took her first ride on the Royal Elephant of Siam or the camels or oxen of other countries. Neither is there any reason to suppose that she will feel any degree of nervousness whatever when she greets old friends again on Thursday evening at the Theatre Royal, for happily Miss Adair enjoys her work thoroughly and does not consider it in the light of a task whatever.

'I will acknowledge, that I felt dreadfully nervous when I took that dive,' said Miss Adair, 'and when you consider that all the white men and while there were all the white men and while there were all the white men, say that they would not risk going down for thousands of pounds it was rather courageous of me, wasn't it? My room overlooked the bay, and it really seemed every other morning when I awoke and looked to see what beast had come in during the night, there would be one with the flag "half mast" meaning another dead diver. This did not tend to make me any happier, but it did not shake my determination in the least. There are grave dangers attached to pearl diving, even for the strongest and most robust men, and for a person like myself, I realize now that I was an exceedingly foolish thing to do. Why I nearly fainted with fatigue before they got the horrible armour fixed. Each shoe weighed 40 pounds. Thoughts of the Spanish Inquisition and diabolical Chinese tortures floated through my mind, while they were securing down the iron breast-plates and attaching the helmet. All the hopes I had of living through it were fast slipping away, and every time the men would buckle on another weight my friends would beg me to give in and not go down. After all I think I felt much better and safer when I realized now that I was an exceedingly foolish thing to do. Why I nearly fainted with fatigue before they got the horrible armour fixed. Each shoe weighed 40 pounds. Thoughts of the Spanish Inquisition and diabolical Chinese tortures floated through my mind, while they were securing down the iron breast-plates and attaching the helmet. All the hopes I had of living through it were fast slipping away, and every time the men would buckle on another weight my friends would beg me to give in and not go down. 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A. S. MIHARA, *Manager.*

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T. H. WHITEHEAD

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torpedo boat	7350	12	13,000
submarine	260	6	4000
torpedo boat	260	6	4000
submarine	1610	—	900
minesweeper	5600	12	8000
torpedo boat	—	—	850

crusier, 1st class	5600	19	6200
class	750	6	1800
class	1050	6	1400
class	710	6	1200
1st class	3800	8	1900
2nd class	755	6	1000
class	3600	8	1000
class	715	6	1200
class	608	6	800
2nd class	755	2	870
ship	2047	—	—
class coast defence	383	2	500
class	6500	19	8500
ship	2157	14	—
class, armoured	4760	4	1000

Dec. 8, 20, 35, 36, 37 and 38, first class: as

and Rig:	Tons.	Guns.	H.P.
cruiser	5500	16	8000
cruiser	7731	20	6000
unboat	818	4	750
cruiser	1640	8	2350
unboat	508	2	500
unboat	476	3	450
ship	7060	12	4500
gunboat	408	3	450
loop.	850	2	1150
tee	3000	8	3700
	3280	6	4400

Category	Count	Percentage
gunboat	495	3 600
submarine	1640	8 2800
cruiser	3988	14 6660
cruiser	6000	16 7000
cruiser	1200	4 1028
cruiser	1130	4 1000
submarine	1658	9 2650
submarine	580	3 600
12,345	—	—
gunboat	600	9 3500
gunboat	1200	2 1000
gunboat	520	3 600
gunboat	1490	2 2000
cruiser	4200	8 2800
gunboat	7048	4 8000
protected cruiser	1048	15 5700
protected cruiser	7077	5 2150
flagship	100	—

	1900	1905	1910	1915	1920	1925	1930	1935	1940	1945	1950	1955	1960	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2055	2060	2065	2070	2075	2080	2085	2090	2095	2100	2105	2110	2115	2120	2125	2130	2135	2140	2145	2150	2155	2160	2165	2170	2175	2180	2185	2190	2195	2200	2205	2210	2215	2220	2225	2230	2235	2240	2245	2250	2255	2260	2265	2270	2275	2280	2285	2290	2295	2300	2305	2310	2315	2320	2325	2330	2335	2340	2345	2350	2355	2360	2365	2370	2375	2380	2385	2390	2395	2400	2405	2410	2415	2420	2425	2430	2435	2440	2445	2450	2455	2460	2465	2470	2475	2480	2485	2490	2495	2500	2505	2510	2515	2520	2525	2530	2535	2540	2545	2550	2555	2560	2565	2570	2575	2580	2585	2590	2595	2600	2605	2610	2615	2620	2625	2630	2635	2640	2645	2650	2655	2660	2665	2670	2675	2680	2685	2690	2695	2700	2705	2710	2715	2720	2725	2730	2735	2740	2745	2750	2755	2760	2765	2770	2775	2780	2785	2790	2795	2800	2805	2810	2815	2820	2825	2830	2835	2840	2845	2850	2855	2860	2865	2870	2875	2880	2885	2890	2895	2900	2905	2910	2915	2920	2925	2930	2935	2940	2945	2950	2955	2960	2965	2970	2975	2980	2985	2990	2995	3000	3005	3010	3015	3020	3025	3030	3035	3040	3045	3050	3055	3060	3065	3070	3075	3080	3085	3090	3095	3100	3105	3110	3115	3120	3125	3130	3135	3140	3145	3150	3155	3160	3165	3170	3175	3180	3185	3190	3195	3200	3205	3210	3215	3220	3225	3230	3235	3240	3245	3250	3255	3260	3265	3270	3275	3280	3285	3290	3295	3300	3305	3310	3315	3320	3325	3330	3335	3340	3345	3350	3355	3360	3365	3370	3375	3380	3385	3390	3395	3400	3405	3410	3415	3420	3425	3430	3435	3440	3445	3450	3455	3460	3465	3470	3475	3480	3485	3490	3495	3500	3505	3510	3515	3520	3525	3530	3535	3540	3545	3550	3555	3560	3565	3570	3575	3580	3585	3590	3595	3600	3605	3610	3615	3620	3625	3630	3635	3640	3645	3650	3655	3660	3665	3670	3675	3680	3685	3690	3695	3700	3705	3710	3715	3720	3725	3730	3735	3740	3745	3750	3755	3760	3765	3770	3775	3780	3785	3790	3795	3800	3805	3810	3815	3820	3825	3830	3835	3840	3845	3850	3855	3860	3865	3870	3875	3880	3885	3890	3895	3900	3905	3910	3915	3920	3925	3930	3935	3940	3945	3950	3955	3960	3965	3970	3975	3980	3985	3990	3995	4000	4005	4010	4015	4020	4025	4030	4035	4040	4045	4050	4055	4060	4065	4070	4075	4080	4085	4090	4095	4100	4105	4110	4115	4120	4125	4130	4135	4140	4145	4150	4155	4160	4
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gunboat	1192	5	3500
gunboat	600	11	3500
ulster	1700	6	3666
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